



HERITAGE MATTERS

Notes on Cultural Resources Management in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

HERITAGE MATTERS: Notes on Cultural Resources Management in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers *is intended to contribute to the Chief of Engineers' strategic goal of effective communication and will aim to assist subject matter experts, planners, tribal liaisons, operations specialists and all team members in the Corps concerned about the management of the cultural environment.*

Executive Order Brings Change to Washington-level Historic Preservation Management

Section 3(e) of Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America", requires that by June 30, 2003, Federal agencies notify the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) of their designation of a Senior Policy Official (SPO) and Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) responsible for historic preservation. The military services in the Department of Defense, including the U.S. Army's Civil Works Program, will designate Deputy Assistant Secretaries to be both the SPO and FPO for their service and the Civil Works function. Each service and Civil Works will also have a Deputy or Assistant FPO providing technical support and advice to the SPO / FPO. For Civil Works, Mr. George Dunlop, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy and Legislation) will be the SPO / FPO. Paul Rubenstein, Planning and Policy Division, Directorate of Civil Works, will advise and assist the SPO / FPO as Deputy FPO.

The new management configuration is designed to bring heightened visibility and advocacy of historic preservation issues through the involvement of senior government policy and decision-makers. Teaming the SPO / FPO with technical support advisors at the headquarters level will ensure that issues and information are effectively communicated within the services and across organizations as well.

ACHP to Hold Public Hearing on Norfolk District Regulatory Action

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has issued a Public Notice announcing a July 1, 2003, hearing on the issuance of a Nationwide Permit for activities within the boundaries of the Chancellorsville Battlefield Historic District (CBHD) in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Norfolk District issued a provisional permit for six road crossings impacting about 0.11 acres of waters of the United States associated with a proposed 273-acre residential subdivision. This area saw Confederate encampments and troop movements during the May 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville.

For some time, Norfolk District has been engaged in discussions with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (VA SHPO), the applicant and the ACHP on the terms of a Memorandum of

Agreement (MOA) to address affects of the permit issuance. The primary issue separating the consulting parties is the Corps scope of analysis with the VA SHPO and ACHP asserting section 106 consideration over the entire subdivision development and the Corps focused on the six road crossings.

After extended discussions, the parties concluded there were no terms of agreement on which to base an MOA and on May 28, 2003, the Department of the Army formally notified the ACHP that it was terminating consultation on what is known locally as the Ashley-Orrock property. The upcoming hearing will allow the ACHP to gather views of the consulting parties, other organizations and the public. The ACHP will then provide its final comments to the Army for its consideration.

Advisory Council Awards Program

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has formally published award criteria, the nomination process and a call for entries for the Chairman's Award for Federal Achievement in Historic Preservation. This award program was established by the ACHP in 2002 and recipients include the General Services Administration, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Economic Development Administration.

The Chairman's Award "recognizes Federal projects, programs, initiatives and policy leaders or career staff that make significant contributions to historic preservation in the Federal Government." The award is not tied to a specific cycle but is generally presented at the ACHP quarterly business meetings. Additional information on the criteria of consideration and qualifying nominations can be found at: www.achp.gov/chairaward.html.

Corps Commands considering competition for the Chairman's Award are encouraged to prepare nominations for transmittal thru channels to the Director of Civil Works. HQUSACE will endorse nominations and forward to the ACHP for consideration.

USACE Cultural Resources Program Review to St. Louis in 2004

The next USACE Cultural Resources Program Review will coincide with the Society for Historical Archaeology's (SHA) Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, January 7 – 11, 2004, in St. Louis, Missouri. The theme for the SHA Conference is "Lewis and Clark: Legacy and Consequences" and the Corps meeting agenda will mirror the SHA theme. Additional details on the Corps meeting will be furnished in future issues of this newsletter and more information on the SHA Conference can be obtained at <http://www.sha.org/mt2004.htm>.

Washington, D.C. Hosts World Archaeological Congress

For only the fifth time since 1986, the World Archaeological Congress (WAC) convened on the campus of the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., 21 – 26 June 2003. In partnership and collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution, The Getty Conservation Institute, and major sponsors such as the National Park Service, WAC brought together over 1,000 professional archaeologists from around the world to discuss a broad range of archaeological themes and topics.

During the week-long proceedings, esoterica was evident in the discussions on “The Archaeology of Zoos”; “Living Under the Shadow: The Archeological, Cultural and Environmental Impact of Volcanic Eruptions”; and “The Heavens Above: Archaeoastronomy, Space Heritage and SETI.” There were, however, numerous symposia and discussion themes of real importance in the management of archeological resources in diverse settings. Several days were devoted to talks on archeological resource stewardship, remote sensing, site interpretation and site conservation. Federal colleagues such as Dr. Frank McManamon of the National Park Service conducted a day-long symposium entitled “Think Nationally; Act Locally: Articulations Between National and Local Archeological Programs.” A separate symposium was devoted to cultural resources management on U.S. military lands and USACE’s Dr. Bob Maslowski, Huntington District, gave an important presentation on management of resources along the Kanawha River Navigation System.

One of the highlighted themes, and the focus of a National Public Radio segment on *Morning Edition* was the heritage of war and effects of warfare on archeological resources. While the media concentrated on sessions devoted to the resources of Afganistan and Iraq; meeting organizers and the archeological community broadened the discussion considerably through practical and scholarly contributions on a wide array of cultural considerations of war and warfare. One such session, titled “Identity in the Ruins of War: Cultural Heritage, War and Social Identity” explored the German occupation of the British Channel Islands during World War II, the history of Kamikaze in Japanese culture and war memorials in predominantly German communities of Australia.

Presentation topics, information on papers and abstracts are available at the WAC website, www.american.edu/wac5.

New Film Offers Glimpse of Maori Culture

While the majestic scenery of New Zealand has awed fans of the Lord of the Rings saga, a new film now out in limited release is offering a fascinating view of the island-nation’s aboriginal Maori culture. Whalerider, based on the novel by Witi Ihimaera, is a classic tale of a young girl, Pai, fighting to be recognized as the leader of her community. Her father, played by Cliff Curtis, is a Maori artist living and working in Germany. Pai is being raised by her grandmother and grandfather. Grandfather is chief of the village and is desperate to keep traditional ways and values alive in the community. The film is devoted to telling the story of the clash between traditional roles and lifeways with the modern world - particularly focusing on the place of women in the community, the struggle for equality, and the passing of traditional leadership from one generation to another.

Whalerider is the second New Zealand film in recent years to center on the Maori culture in modern settings. Once Were Warriors appeared in the US in the mid-1990’s, offering a particularly bleak and depressing view of modern Maori life including violent behavior, spousal abuse and substance abuse. About the only similarity between Whalerider and Warriors is that they only show narrow views of a complex and evolving aboriginal culture. Of the two, Whalerider is decidedly more uplifting with a terrific story and great performances by veteran actors, young and old. Curtis, a native New Zealander, finally plays the Maori that he is after roles as European and South American thugs. Young Pai, is played by newcomer Keisha Castle-Hughes, Grandfather Koro and Grandmother Nanny Flowers are

Rawiri Paratene and Vicky Haughton, both veteran actors demonstrating passion for their key roles in the story.

This is a great film for the anthropologists, the families of anthropologists, and anyone interested in traditional cultures and lifeways.

Upcoming Events

National Preservation Conference, Denver, Colorado, 30 September - 5 October 2003

Annual Conference of the Society for Historical and Underwater Archaeology, 7 – 11 January 2004

Legislative Affairs

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs (SCIA) recently held an oversight hearing on Federal management of Native American sacred sites. The House Resources Committee (HRC) is currently holding a series of field hearings on National Forests and other topics. Both committees will be in recess shortly for the July 4th holiday. To view Committee hearings, identify Committee members, and view member biographies go to the Committee homepages at: <http://www.senate.gov/~scia/index.html> and <http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/>

Instructions for Contributors to HERITAGE MATTERS

This newsletter is intended to improve communication on management of the cultural environment throughout the Corps. We hope that future editions will contain contributed narratives from team members throughout the agency. With your help, these notes can become a forum for sharing of experiences and an opportunity to learn from others. We welcome your thoughts, questions, success stories and lessons learned so that we can share them on these pages. Contributed articles can be as long as it takes to relay information, but we recommend 2 – 3 paragraphs. Please:

- - Use MS Word
- - Use “normal” style
- - Use Times Roman font, 11 point
- - Left justify text with double spacing between paragraphs
- - Begin articles with a short title in bold text
- - Follow the title with the author(s) name and organization
- - Include an end line with contact information including telephone number and e-mail address